

**IN THE U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Paul et al.

Art Unit: 1743

Application Number:

Examiner: Ludlow, J.

Filed:

Attorney Docket No: SD-8245.2

**For: SAMPLE INJECTOR FOR HIGH PRESSURE LIQUID  
CHROMATOGRAPHY**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This preliminary amendment is directed to the accompanying  
Application, a Division of prior co-pending Application No. 09/548,475  
filed 04/13/00, from which benefit is claimed.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please amend the first line of the Specification to read:**

This application is a Division of prior co-pending Application No.  
09/548,475, filed 04/13/00.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please cancel claims 1-7 and 9-12.**

**Please add the following new claims 13-15.**

13. A method for injecting a sample into a microscale chromatography  
column, comprising:

providing a microfluidic device fabricated on a substrate, the device comprising, a source of hydrostatic pressure joined at a common junction to the microscale chromatography column, and a fluid flow channel intersecting the common junction and in fluid communication with the chromatography column;

flushing the chromatography column with a flow of a buffer solution;

stopping the flow of buffer solution;

flowing a fluid to be analyzed through the flow channel; and

applying a hydraulic pressure to a portion of the fluid, thereby injecting the portion into the chromatography column.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said step of flowing is accomplished by a pressure-driven sample injector.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein said step of applying a hydraulic pressure is accomplished by an electrokinetic pump.

#### REMARKS

This is a divisional application presenting claims from Group II (Claim 8) of the originally filed application and new claims 13-15 for examination.

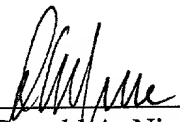
Support for new claims 13-15 can be found throughout the specification of the invention and drawing and particularly at pp. 4-8. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request favorable consideration of the claims presented and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 07/05/01

  
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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this New Application Transmittal and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service on **July 11, 2001** in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EL177883322US , addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: 7-11-01

Olivia Johnson  
Person Making Deposit

  
Signature

ENCLOSURE